

Survey Questions

Orphan Share Compensation Reform Evaluation

Introduction

Recently, you were involved in settlement negotiations at a Superfund site where EPA offered to compromise a portion of its past costs and/or future oversight costs. This offer was made to compensate you for the share of liability associated with non-viable/defunct parties at this site (commonly referred to as the “orphan share”). Your name was selected at random to participate in a survey about this experience to help EPA better understand how its orphan share compensation policy is perceived by parties involved in Superfund settlement negotiations. The purpose of the survey is to solicit feedback from you on how the orphan share compensation offer affected your decision to settle. The information you provide will only be used to help improve EPA’s policies and services. The survey will take less than 5 minutes to complete and is entirely voluntary.

While we plan to conduct the survey over the telephone, we recognize that it may be more convenient for some respondents to submit a written survey. If you would like to submit a written survey, please fill out this form and return it directly to our survey contractor in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. When the contractor receives your survey in the mail, your name will be removed from their call list and you will not be contacted with regard to a telephone survey, unless one of your written answers requires clarification.

Questions

1. How satisfied were you with the orphan share compensation offer made by EPA?

☐ Very Satisfied
☐ Satisfied
☐ Neutral
☐ Dissatisfied
☐ Highly Dissatisfied

2. Do you believe orphan share compensation increases the fairness of the Superfund program?

☐ Yes
☐ No

If no, why not?

3. How important was the orphan share compensation offer to you in deciding whether or not to settle?

☐ Very Important
☐ Important
☐ Neutral
☐ Unimportant
☐ Very Unimportant

4. What was your principal reason for not settling? **[For Non-settlors only -- separate settlor and non-settlor forms will be created]**

5. How did you think the orphan share compensation offer affected other transaction costs you incurred at this site, such as legal expenses?

☐ Increased Other Costs
☐ Did Not Affect Other Costs
☐ Decreased Other Costs

If you believe your other costs increased, did the receipt of orphan share compensation outweigh the increase in costs?

☐ Yes
☐ No

6. What effect did the orphan share compensation offer have on the pace of settlement discussions?

☐ Increased the Pace of Settlement Discussions
☐ No Effect on Settlement Discussions
☐ Slowed Down the Pace of Settlement Discussions

If you believe the pace of settlement discussions slowed down, did the receipt of orphan share compensation outweigh this slow down?

☐ Yes
☐ No

7. How could EPA improve the orphan share compensation reform?

